

CLAIMS

1. A method for cleaning a media drive transducer head, comprising:
 transporting a portion of a cleaning tape over a transducer head under a first set of conditions, the first set of conditions associated with a cleaning process of the transducer head; and
 transporting the portion of the cleaning tape over the transducer head under a second set of conditions, the second set of conditions associated with a writing process.
2. The method of claim 1, further including determining a longitudinal end of data on the cleaning tape prior to transporting the portion of the cleaning tape over the transducer head under the first set of conditions, wherein the data is associated with a previous cleaning process.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the portion of the cleaning tape transported over the transducer head under the first set of conditions associated with the cleaning process is located adjacent the longitudinal end of data on the cleaning tape.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first set of conditions and the second set of conditions vary at least in the speed of the cleaning tape relative to the transducer head.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the speed of the cleaning tape under the first set of conditions is less than the speed of the cleaning tape under the second set of conditions.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the transducer head is moved according to a predefined algorithm under the first set of conditions.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the writing process includes writing data to the portion of the cleaning tape used in the cleaning process.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein a tone is written during the writing process.
9. A computer readable medium including computer executable code to carry out the method of claim 1.
10. A method for cleaning a media drive transducer head, comprising:
 - writing a data segment to a first portion of a cleaning tape under a first set of conditions; and
 - transporting a second portion of the cleaning tape over a transducer head under a second set of conditions associated with a cleaning process, wherein
 - the data segment is associated with the position of the second portion of the cleaning tape, and
 - the second set of conditions varies from the first set of conditions.
11. The method of claim 10, further including writing a plurality of data segments to the first portion of the cleaning tape, the plurality of data segments associated with a plurality of cleaning segments of the cleaning tape.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the plurality of data segments are written in at least two bands disposed laterally in the first portion of the cleaning tape.
13. The method of claim 10, wherein the speed of the cleaning tape under the first set of conditions is greater than the speed of the cleaning tape under the second set of conditions.
14. The method of claim 10, wherein the transducer head is moved according to a predefined algorithm under the second set of conditions.
15. The method of claim 10, wherein the first portion of the cleaning tape is located adjacent the beginning of the cleaning tape.
16. A computer readable medium including computer executable code to carry out the method of claim 10.
17. A media drive system, comprising:
 - a media drive;
 - a transducer head; and
 - a drive reel adapted to transport a cleaning tape over the transducer head, wherein, the media drive is configured to:
 - transport a portion of the cleaning tape over the transducer head under a first set of conditions, the first set of conditions associated with a cleaning process of the transducer head, and
 - transport the portion of the cleaning tape over the transducer head under a second set of conditions, the second set of conditions associated with a writing process.

18. The media drive system of claim 17, wherein the drive is further configured to determine a longitudinal end of data on the cleaning tape prior to transporting the portion of the cleaning tape over the transducer head under the first set of conditions, the data associated with a previous cleaning process.
19. The media drive system of claim 18, wherein the portion of the cleaning tape transported over the transducer head under the first set of conditions associated with the cleaning process is located adjacent the longitudinal end of data on the cleaning tape.
20. The media drive system of claim 17, wherein the first set of conditions and the second set of conditions vary at least in the speed of the cleaning tape relative to the transducer head.
21. A media drive, comprising:
a media drive;
a transducer head; and
a drive reel adapted to transport a cleaning tape over the transducer head, wherein, the media drive is configured to:
write a data segment to a first portion of the cleaning tape under a first set of conditions,
transport a second portion of the cleaning tape over the transducer head under a second set of conditions associated with a cleaning process, wherein the data segment is associated with the position of the second portion of the cleaning tape, and the second set of conditions varies from the first set of conditions.

22. The media drive of claim 21, wherein the media drive is further configured to write a plurality of data segments to the first portion of the cleaning tape, the plurality of data segments associated with a plurality of cleaning segments of the cleaning tape.
23. The media drive of claim 21, wherein the speed of the cleaning tape under the first set of conditions is greater than the speed of the cleaning tape under the second set of conditions.